



BALA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1939**

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BALA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,—

I beg to present my report for the year ended December 31st, 1939.

A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	659 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid-1939... ..	1537
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1939) according to rate books	466
Rateable Value... ..	£6778
Sum represented by a penny rate... ..	£26 9 11

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate... ..	14	4	18
Illegitimate... ..	0	0	0
Birth Rate per 1000 estimated population ...	12.05		
Still Births.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate... ..	1	0	1
Illegitimate... ..	0	0	0
Rate per 1000 total births67		
Deaths.	M.	F.	Total
	11	6	17
General Death Rate... ..	11.06		
Areal Comparability Factor81		
Death from Puerperal Causes	0		

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age.

All Infants per 1000 live births... ..	55.56
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	55.56
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)... ..	0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)... ..	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)... ..	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years old)	0

Causes of Death for the Area during the Year.—

	M.	F.	Total.
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	2	0	2
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	0	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	0	1	1
Heart Disease... ..	2	2	4
Other Circulatory Diseases... ..	2	2	4
Bronchitis	2	0	2
Influenza... ..	1	0	1
Liver Diseases... ..	1	0	1
Violence... ..	1	0	1
Total ...	11	6	17

Deaths Rates from:—

Tuberculosis... ..	0
Cancer... ..	0
Chronic Nephritis... ..	1.3
Cerebral Haemorrhage... ..	.65
Heart and Circulatory Diseases... ..	5.21
Respiratory Diseases	1.3
Influenza... ..	.65
Child Birth	0

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Public Health Officers.—

M.O.H. (part time) Robert Jones, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector (part time)...Mr. D. R. Roberts.

There were no changes in the following:—

- (a) Laboratory Facilities.
- (b) Nursing in the Home.
- (c) Hospital Facilities.
- (d) Ambulance Facilities.

The ambulance that has served Bala and Penllyn for about 15 years has now serious defects, and should be replaced by a modern, more comfortable vehicle.

The various Clinics available for consultations are:—

- (a) Tuberculosis (King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial).
- (b) Infant Welfare.
- (c) Orthopaedic (for children: The County Council Scheme).

For older persons: The Merioneth Voluntary Orthopaedic Association).

- (d) Ante-Natal (County Scheme).

C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The six inch main from the reservoir to the town was scraped and cement-lined. Also, all the distribution mains in the town have been either relaid new with cement-lined C1 pipes, or the old pipes which were considered in sufficiently good condition were scraped and cement-lined.

Three hundred yards of two inch mains in Tegid Street and hundred and fifty yards in Station Road were replaced by new four ins. diameter pipes.

These alterations together with the new reservoir have made more secure the water supply of the town.

As to the six inch delivery pipe from Lake Arenig to the service reservoir is becoming more incrustated every year this part of the water supply will require attention in the near future.

The supply was satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There were no changes.

Public Cleansing.

There were no changes in the arrangements for public scavenging during the year.

Shops and Offices.

No action was taken under the provisions of Shops Act, 1934 nor under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Camping Sites.

No. in the District... ..	1
No. licensed under Public Health Act, 1936... ..	1
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season 1939... ..	50

Smoke Abatement.

No action was necessary to abate nuisance from smoke, etc.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths in the area. A certain amount of bathing takes place in Bala Lake for which no provisions are necessary for ensuring a satisfactory condition of the water. Two bathing huts are provided by the Local Authority for use during the bathing season.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action was necessary for this purpose.

Schools.

The sanitary conditions of the Schools remain the same. There were no serious epidemics amongst school children during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Total number of formal notices issued...	10
Number complied with...	10
Total number of informal notices issued...	98
Number complied with...	98
Total number of new houses completed:—	
(a) By Local Sanitary Authority ...	18
(b) By Private Enterprise...	0
Number of Plans: new houses, buildings...	9
Visits to Bakehouses...	14
No. of Notices re defects...	1
Visits to Cowsheds...	150
Number of Notices re defects...	36
Visits to milkshops and dairies...	40
Number of Notices re defects...	Nil
Visits to Slaughter-houses...	130
No. of Notices re defects...	28
Notices re removal of ashes...	10
Notices re removal of manure...	15
Notices re defects of drains...	24
Number of visits to cases of infectious diseases...	4
Number of houses disinfected...	10

Notice of defective water fittings... ..	94
Number of pail closets converted into W.C.... ..	0
Number of new water closets erected... ..	2
Total number of water closets... ..	471
Pail closets... ..	9
Privies or other closets... ..	2
Number of closets serving more than one house...	14
Milk samples taken by Ministry of Health... ..	0
For County Council... ..	4
For Local Sanitary Authority... ..	0

D.—HOUSING.

There is still need for the erection of new houses. Another thirty would relieve to a large extent the shortage of houses in the district.

E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

Milk Supply.

There are 12 registered dealers in the town. Their dairies and cowsheds are regularly inspected.

Four samples of milk were sent on behalf of the County Council for examination of bacterial content, etc.

Meat and other Food.

Meat shops, slaughter-houses and bake-houses were regularly inspected by the Sanitary Officers. No laboratory examinations were made and no carcasses or parts of carcasses were condemned for tuberculosis or other diseases.

F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were no changes in Laboratory arrangements for facilitating the diagnosis of or treatment of infectious diseases.

Three cases of Scarlet Fever only were notified during the year. Their ages were 4, 6 and 48 years. There were no deaths and none were admitted to Hospital.

Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during the year.

Age Periods.	New Cases.					Deaths.
	Resp.		Non-Resp.			
	M	F	...	M	F	
5... ..	0	3	...	0	0	
15... ..	0	1	...	0	0	
45... ..	1	0	...	0	0	

There is no cause to suspect neglect in the notification of Tuberculosis in the district.

I wish to express my thanks to the County M.O.H., the Sanitary Inspector, Clerk and Members of the Council for their co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT JONES.